

MEETING OF THE

U.S. NATIONAL COMMISSION ON LIBRARIES AND  
INFORMATION SCIENCE

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Conference Room  
NCLIS  
1110 Vermont Avenue, N.W.  
Suite 820  
Washington, D.C.

Friday, October 26, 2001

The meeting was convened, pursuant to notice, at 8:36 a.m., MARTHA B. GOULD, Chairperson, presiding.

**PRESENT:**

**COMMISSIONERS:**

MARTHA B. GOULD, Chair  
JOAN R. CHALLINOR, Vice Chair  
REBECCA T. BINGHAM\*  
JOSÉ-MARIE GRIFFITHS\*  
JACK E. HIGHTOWER  
PAULETTE HOLAHAN  
MARILYN GELL MASON  
DONALD L. ROBINSON  
BOBBY ROBERTS  
WINSTON TABB, for Dr. Billington, Librarian of Congress

**STAFF:**

ROBERT S. WILLARD, Executive Director  
JUDITH C. RUSSELL, Deputy Director  
KIM MILLER, Special Assistant - Technical  
ROSALIE VLACH, Director, Legislative and Public Affairs  
**CONSULTANTS:**  
ELIZABETH BINGHAM\*

\* Participating by telephone

## PROCEEDINGS

### WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION OF NEW MEMBERS

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: I would like to call the meeting to order, please, at whatever time it is.

COMMISSIONER ROBINSON: 8:36.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: For those of you who got your faxes and your email -- this is Martha talking. Basically, there is no printed agenda. We're going to have some reports to begin with and then we're going to go into consideration of what Bob and I decided to call recalibration post-9/11. With that, Bob has pulled together a presentation and I'm going to turn the meeting over to him at this point.

MR. WILLARD: We're going to start out with just -- we know that the web is a useful way for distributing some information of distributing some information and my wife brought to my attention yesterday a tribute that appears on the web. I apologize for the people who are remote. I will send you the URL for it so you can take a look at it if you wish some time in the future. But it will just take about three minutes, but I think it will be worth your three minutes. And there will be a point at which it will be appropriate to stand.  
(Audiovisual presentation, the audio track of which follows.)

PRESIDENT BUSH: Good evening. Today our way of life, our very freedom, came under attack in a series of deliberate and deadly terrorist acts.

VOICE: Pictures of airplanes flying into buildings, fires burning, huge structures collapsing, have filled us with disbelief, with sadness, and a quiet, unyielding anger. God bless America.  
(Voice sings "The Star-Spangled Banner.")  
(End of audiovisual presentation.)

MR. WILLARD: Thank you.

Those of you who are remote do have copies of the slide presentation that I'll take us through now. It essentially will build a to-do list that will then be the subject for the rest of the meeting.

(Slide.)

First of all, I want to report on the budget status. With the exception of now knowing that there is a unanimous consent agreement in the Senate that says that the Senate will take up the Labor-HHS budget on the 30th, there is no change from the last status report I sent you. Summarizing, a million dollars has been approved by the House, but it is, in the words of one of their staffers, final funding.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: Good morning, Bobby.

COMMISSIONER ROBERTS: Good morning.

MR. WILLARD: Bobby, are you at your office?

COMMISSIONER ROBERTS: No, I'm at home.

MR. WILLARD: Do you have a fax machine at home?

COMMISSIONER ROBERTS: No.

MR. WILLARD: Well, we're working through some slides and unfortunately I'll just have to do a good job of describing them as we go.

We are talking about the budget status, which has not changed, a million dollars, and the House has said that they encourage the Commission to complete our ongoing projects. That has passed the House.

The Senate has approved in their appropriations report \$1.495 million, the same as this year. They say they are considerably disturbed over the administration request to terminate the Commission and they fund us in order to allow us to continue to play our important role. We now know that on October 30th is when the Senate will take up that bill.

As soon as that is passed by the Senate, then the conference committee will determine which approach will be included in the final bill. The key decisionmakers as far as the Commission is concerned are the Republican members of the House Appropriations Subcommittee or whoever the Republicans appoint to that conference committee, because I think the Senate will stand firm on their bill and if we can just get the Republicans to yield I think we'll be fine.

VICE CHAIR CHALLINOR: What does that mean, if we can get the Republicans to yield?

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: To accept the Senate funding level of \$1.5 million.

VICE CHAIR CHALLINOR: What's the time frame?

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: Tuesday is when they will take it up, Tuesday.

VICE CHAIR CHALLINOR: And then when does it go to conference?

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: Shortly thereafter.

VICE CHAIR CHALLINOR: A week, two weeks?

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: We have no way of knowing.

MR. WILLARD: We're in uncharted territory. I had predicted before, not knowing that they were going to close up for a week, that it would have been this week. So all predictions are off.

VICE CHAIR CHALLINOR: Well, it keeps Robby on our Commission over there.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: And Paulette.

VICE CHAIR CHALLINOR: And Paulette, too.

MR. WILLARD: We'll get to that.

The major issue facing us if we want to take a confident approach, and we know, no matter what, if either side is approved -- and we can turn the lights back up; it will be easier for people to take notes -- we know that there is money one way or the other, either a million dollars or a million and a half. Even if there's a million dollars with a House direction to go out of business, we don't have to fold our tent. We can do for the next year the same thing we did for the past year. I'm not looking forward to that.

COMMISSIONER GRIFFITHS: Can I clarify something? Does this mean that we are no longer talking about the potential for -- I mean, I understand the circumstance, but are we really and truly saying that the \$2 million is now totally off the table?

MR. WILLARD: That's correct.

COMMISSIONER GRIFFITHS: Okay.

MR. WILLARD: The thing that affects us most right now is that the FY 2003 budget is in the first stages. OMB is working on it, and the guidance they have submitted to all agencies is to submit a budget that is based on or is equivalent to the FY 2002 budget, which in our case was zero. So that clearly, as an independent agency with the legislative history we have, we can still submit to the Congress what we think we need. But clearly it would make sense for us to try to get to the White House and see if between now and when the President's budget gets transmitted that he does relent on this broad, across the board policy, and at least for our agency acknowledge that the circumstances are different than what he understood to be the case when he came in in January 2001.

VICE CHAIR CHALLINOR: What does that mean, "get to the White House"?

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: Any contacts you have.

VICE CHAIR CHALLINOR: Who has contacts with the White House?

MS. RUSSELL: A lot of potential nominees, friends of the Commission, and a number of organizations.

VICE CHAIR CHALLINOR: Friends of the Commission? I am just trying to understand how this is going to work.

MR. WILLARD: Well, maybe that is part of the discussion. Let me go through the briefing. Keep notes about what we need.

I'm going to build -- what you'll see here is a Commission to-do list. This will build as I go through this briefing and when we get at the end of it all the things that the Commission needs to talk about

this morning will be on the list.

The next issue I want to raise has to do with appointments. The summary is that we currently have five vacancies. At the end of the Senate session there will be three more. Now, we don't know precisely when that will be.

There are two different scenarios that could play out. One is that as soon as they pass all the appropriations bills they will then adjourn sine die and plan to come back in January. At that time, if it is November 1st, November 15th, that will be the end of the session and that will be the end of the terms of Commissioners Robinson, Mason, and Holahan.

However, there is also some discussion that they will simply recess so that they can come back quickly to deal with whatever issues arise between now and the beginning of the second session, in which case the terms of those three Commissioners will stay in effect.

COMMISSIONER ROBINSON: Until January 2nd.

MR. WILLARD: Until January 2nd.

There are also two possible replacements under the extension of terms under our law. Everybody whose term ends in a particular year has an additional year grace period during which the President could replace them. But if he doesn't, they continue until one year is completed. That affects Commissioners Bingham and Griffiths.

The issue of a quorum. We know that at the end of the Senate session, we can do the math and the Commission membership will equal seven and we know a quorum is eight. So we need some action. One is a resolution to empower the executive committee, and I will have that during the discussion period. The second, that resolution also urges us to urge the President to appoint members. I think one of the things we have to acknowledge is -- and Joan picked this up off National Public Radio, but background investigations are somewhat at risk because all the FBI agents are doing other things. So that certainly adds an argument to re-appointing or even recess appointing those three Commissioners who have been through the FBI background check.

The third thing is to -- and we've started this -- ask Congress for amendments to our statute so the terms are extended until replaced just for one year and to redefine a quorum so that, instead of being a majority of the number of positions that exist, it would be a majority of the number of positions that actually are filled. So, adding to our to-do list, we need to pass a resolution dealing with vacancies.

The third thing I want to raise is commemorative activities. The budget issues really stopped us from doing what we should have been doing and that is taking note of our thirtieth anniversary, as we have on the fiftieth and twentieth and our twenty-fifth. That presents us with an opportunity to get some visibility for what we do and also to give recognition to individuals who helped.

One of the groups that I think certainly we should not lose track of because they are leaving this world is the initial NCLIS sponsors. Three of them are still in Congress -- Senators Kennedy,

Stevens, and Mrs. Mink from Hawaii in the House. They're still serving, but there are about 19 or 20 additional members, including such people as John Brademas, who I think it would be in our interest to do something that recognizes their contribution and also heightens our sensitivity to the fact that the Commission is still around.

I therefore raise for your consideration that next August 2nd will be the one hundredth anniversary of the birth of Bessie Moore. I don't think there is any single individual more closely associated with the history of this Commission. She was on the temporary advisory commission that proposed the creation of NCLIS and she served for four terms, including most of that time as vice chairperson.

COMMISSIONER HOLAHAN: Bob, I have to tell you, I was at Bessie's eightieth birthday party in Montreal. I can't believe it's been 20 years.

MR. WILLARD: Well, I think you, having served on the Commission at the same time as she, can probably echo my feelings that she certainly is the principal individual associated with this organization.

COMMISSIONER HOLAHAN: Absolutely.

MR. WILLARD: So adding to the to-do list, I would say consider new commemorative activities. Finally, and what will take the bulk of our conversation I'm sure, is our post-9/11 activities. I've drawn the sentence, the question, "What is the appropriate action for NCLIS to take that exploits its unique mission, makes a lasting contribution to the nation, and involves America's libraries and information centers?"

We have to start out with proposals that José has put in a letter which we'll pass out, that has -- what I'll summarize here, a letter that she sent to Tom Ridge in his role as head of the Office of Homeland Security. The three elements that were in that thing was: to bring NCLIS expertise and national leadership to the whole issue of government information. That really is at all levels: How does the government get its information out in a time of crisis? Implicit in that is, what role can libraries have in that?

The second thing is to develop a close partnership between America's libraries, information services, information centers, and the Office of Homeland Security and other agencies, to put in place that infrastructure so it can respond quickly under such circumstances.

The third is to ensure that there are emergency preparedness and disaster recovery plans. If I were to summarize in one word here, it would be "preservation." In José's letter she points out the loss of an archive a block away from the World Trade Center that had much material dealing with Helen Keller and it's just gone, other things that, if we had a crystal ball five years ago, we could have been recommending to libraries that would have provided at the very least electronic replicates or some other, microfilm or other background or backup for that material.

Before we can get into that, I think it's necessary to understand how it fits into the context of what the Commission is doing. So I thought -- and this is an analysis and I want to preface by saying we have never looked at our numbers quite this way before. We have always shown you our budget in

terms of how much we're spending on salaries and how much we're spending on posters and how much we're spending on travel, but we have not done an allocation to specific programs. So I want to talk you through what I commend Judy for preparing.

But also, she would be the first to admit this is a SWAG, a scientific wild-something guess. But it's a beginning. We want to say what projects we're currently undertaking and then what projects should continue or be modified in scope and funding or be eliminated.

Let me first show you, the total budget we have is \$1.9 million. That's made up of the 1.495 that is appropriated directly to us, the 325,000 that we get from NCES to facilitate our library statistics program, 75,000 which we got this year from the State Department to involve us in educational, cultural, and scientific programs or UNESCO type programs under the ICSECA program, and \$7100 we got last year flowing through our gift fund.

Now, the programs that we've identified that kept us busy during FY 2001 were the government information program that Woody held, and that -- I'm going to build this pie chart. That was about 19 percent of all the money we spent. What we are doing, let me just give you a little bit of the methodology, we're ascribing any out of pocket costs that could be directly attributed to that, we are ascribing staff resources, for example Woody as a consultant, to that, and we are pro-rating some salary and other expenses of other people, including Commissioners, to each of these slices of the pie that I'll build. So that's how we came up with approximately 19 percent went to the government information program.

14 percent went to all of our international programs. I don't think I need to do a lot of explanation there because that was the focus of our entire IPLA meeting. The Commission meeting at IPLA focused on all of the international programs we're engaged in. I think you can understand why that number is there. That also includes 9 percent -- I mean, it doesn't include additional to that is 9 percent that was directed specifically to the Sister Libraries Project.

Then we move into our statistics area, a big chunk. 21 percent goes to the federal -- all the Department of Education and NCES program. Some of this money, I guess --

MS. RUSSELL: 325.

MR. WILLARD: 325 we received, so you can see if we're spending 400,000 already we're spending 75,000 out of our own budget in addition to the 325 we got.

You also should be aware that of that 400, some of that, a big chunk, went directly to an outside contractor for geocoding, a geocoding project, so that we could know specifically where library facilities are located and be able to do mapping. Once we know statistics about them, we can do a better job of knowing what population they serve, what sort of barriers there are, such as interstate highways, etcetera, that prevent use of them, and so on.

MS. RUSSELL: That was 116,000.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: 116,000 out of the 400,000 went to that.



Additional activities in the statistical area. The easiest way to think about this is the Internet survey. We got 81,000. This current year it is being devoted to a report that we hope to see by the end of the year, that's policy recommendations based on the numbers that we developed in this same program a year ago. In other words, a year ago we measured how many libraries were offering Internet service and pointed out a couple of things, like how many had public access for individuals with disabilities, and now we are going to issue a report prepared by a consultant, but with additional verbiage that we will add as introductory matter, on what the policy issues are regarding Internet and public libraries.

We have done some initial work. Principally, this is the preparation of the hearing record that was just published on our disabilities hearing, but it also includes some preparatory work for a program that the Commission may wish to pursue in the future.

We also held our hearing on school libraries. That represents about 6 percent of our budget and that is principally the travel and preparation and initial -- preparation for the meeting, the hearing, and now some initial preparation, but not very much, in terms of getting the hearing report done.

I want to draw specific attention -- it represents 3 percent of our budget -- to all of the work that goes into preparing our annual report. I think as Rosalie becomes more attuned to the work that needs to be done to get that out it'll be a little bit less. But nonetheless, when you look at the amount of time that it takes to accumulate, contact all of the Commissioners, verify dates, etcetera, etcetera, and then to print the thing, 3 percent of our budget.

6 percent of our budget we allocated to appropriations, and we hope that will be a number that you don't see again, because this really represents the intensive amount of time on staff part, principally my time but also Judy's and to a lesser degree other members of the staff, in dealing with the fallout from the proposal to do away with our budget. As I say, I hope we never have to go through that again, but if history is a guide we may.

Finally, general administration. Obviously, we have to have staff meetings, we've got to pay for rent. I guess we distributed the rent to the various projects on a pro rata basis. But this is all those little things that you just can't ascribe to particular programs, so that accounts for about 12 percent of our budget.

Now, I presented it in the order I did because there is a natural grouping. You can see -- in fact, I'll jump to the next one. You can see about 19 percent goes to the government information, 23 percent to our international activities, 37 percent to our own and NCES statistical activities, and 21 percent to things we have to do to run the shop.

So I think at that point let me just make sure there aren't any questions on the numbers.

COMMISSIONER ROBINSON: You said 37 percent is statistics and whatever, but some of them, like school libraries and disabilities, are in that category.

MR. WILLARD: Well, it's statistics and surveys. It's research.

COMMISSIONER ROBINSON: Okay.

MR. WILLARD: It's developing new knowledge in that area. Obviously, in our statistics program we do have international statistical activity, so do I put it in the yellow or the blue?

COMMISSIONER HOLAHAN: Bob, would you give the lumped-together staff again?

VICE CHAIR CHALLINOR: Do they have the same thing that we do? Are they looking at the same papers?

MR. WILLARD: Paulette? Was that Paulette?

COMMISSIONER HOLAHAN: Yes.

MR. WILLARD: It should be in your fax machine. But it's 19 percent for government information.

COMMISSIONER HOLAHAN: Okay, but when you summarized it, though, you said you lumped various categories together and said, this is what we did.

MR. WILLARD: Right.

COMMISSIONER HOLAHAN: You added the first what, five, is that what it is? Four -- three, rather

MR. WILLARD: Government information stands alone by itself at 19 percent.

COMMISSIONER HOLAHAN: Okay.

MR. WILLARD: The international and Sister Libraries adds up to 23 percent under the rubric of general international. NCES, the library statistics programs, statistics and surveys that we do ourselves, our project having to do with disabilities, services for individuals with disabilities and the role of school libraries, all sum up to about 37 percent.

COMMISSIONER HOLAHAN: I'm on your wavelength now, thank you.

MR. WILLARD: Okay.  
Marilyn?

COMMISSIONER MASON: It doesn't add up to 1.9 million. It adds up to 1.5 million, so we're missing around about 350,000.

COMMISSIONER HOLAHAN: That's what my problem was.

COMMISSIONER MASON: I don't mean to get -- but that's a pretty big chunk to be missing.

MR. WILLARD: Yes. We'll check that.

MS. RUSSELL: We'll go over it and check it. We did these pretty hastily last night and we did rounding to get them down to these things. But we shouldn't have that big an error.

VICE CHAIR CHALLINOR: I have a question on appropriations was 123,000. How can appropriations cost 123,000?

MS. RUSSELL: Well, that's allocating Bob's staff time.

VICE CHAIR CHALLINOR: But isn't he here anyway?

COMMISSIONER ROBINSON: Yes, but you have to pay for it.

MS. RUSSELL: It's saying what part of Bob's time went to government, what part to international, what part to statistics

MR. WILLARD: Yes. If you want to see those, as I say, they were SWAG's. But I can say I went through these nine things and I said, okay, I think I probably spent about X percent on this, Y percent on that.

VICE CHAIR CHALLINOR: I just wanted to know what it was.

MS. RUSSELL: It's also Commissioners' time and travel and my time. It's also the time we end up anyway preparing the budget submission, that would be preparing the budget justification for Congress.

VICE CHAIR CHALLINOR: I didn't understand. I thought it was outside of the salaries, but it isn't.

MS. RUSSELL: No, no.

VICE CHAIR CHALLINOR: It's within the salaries. I didn't understand.

MR. WILLARD: As I said, normally you will see, for example, our salaries including the consulting services, which are the equivalent of salaries, are about a million out of the 1.495. So salaries like -- and Marilyn can testify to this. In libraries salaries are the big, the principal.

COMMISSIONER MASON: Yes. I think the other thing that we -- I just want to make note of is that the green portion, the green portion which represents what it costs to keep everything moving --

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: Right.

COMMISSIONER MASON: -- is pretty much a fixed number. That is to say, if we had an increase

in our budget I would not expect to see that number change much.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: The percentage.

COMMISSIONER MASON: The percentage would go down because it just takes a fixed amount of effort to do all the reporting and report preparation and maintenance of the organization, which is I think in a different time an argument for an increased level of funding, because it really all goes into programs.

MR. WILLARD: Yes.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: The other thing, too, when we look at our budget for this forthcoming year, originally they were doing flat budgets with 4 percent to handle COLA's and inflation, and I'm not even sure that that's going to happen for any departments this year, except of course Defense.

MR. WILLARD: Well now, we will see a mandated salary increase out of the Office of Personnel Management that we will have to apply and it will come out of --

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: That's what I mean. In other words, our budget will have to eat that amount.

COMMISSIONER ROBINSON: Except you wouldn't have the \$123 million that you --

VICE CHAIR CHALLINOR: 123,000.

COMMISSIONER ROBINSON: 123,000, yes. --  
- if we weren't out there begging.

MS. RUSSELL: That money --

COMMISSIONER ROBINSON: Is begging money.

MS. RUSSELL: -- a sliver of that money would go into the general administration and the rest of it would flow back into programs. That's something we've talked about all year long, the opportunity cost of having some time and attention spent on defending.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: Okay, go on, Bob.

MR. WILLARD: So this adds to our to-do list, determining what are appropriate post-9/11 activities.

I also want to raise that that may motivate the Commission to tweak the agenda for the December meeting a little. Right now we are planning to meet on Thursday morning of that week. It may end up that it seems appropriate that we meet more time and might start on Wednesday afternoon.

COMMISSIONER HIGHTOWER: What week is that?

MR. WILLARD: The first week. That's the meeting that you're at.

VICE CHAIR CHALLINOR: That's December 6th.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: Yes.

COMMISSIONER ROBINSON: But are we still doing the December 7th part of it?

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: Yes.

VICE CHAIR CHALLINOR: What you just said applies to that we will extent the meeting on the 6th or on the 5th?

MS. RUSSELL: Because the afternoon of the 6th is already committed to the Joint Meeting with the Museum Services Board.

VICE CHAIR CHALLINOR: Right, and that's Thursday.

MS. RUSSELL: That's Thursday, and then the Museum Services Board is meeting by itself on Friday morning.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: Which is the meeting that normally Bob and I attend.

VICE CHAIR CHALLINOR: And we will.

MS. RUSSELL: We will have a representative there, but all the Commissioners are not staying over for that.

VICE CHAIR CHALLINOR: But I'm a little unclear on Wednesday December 5th.

We might have to meet, is that what you're saying?

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: That's one of the things we'll determine today.

MR. WILLARD: So that concludes what I wanted to summarize before the discussion started.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: We're now at the discussion.

MR. WILLARD: I'm going to leave the to-do list up.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: I think that the first thing that we need to talk about --and Bob, can we go back a little. It says "Determine approach to the FY 2003 budget." But at some point I think we need to talk about whether or not we need to work with Congress vis a vis the forthcoming conference committee on the 2002 budget to make sure that we hold to the Senate figure. I am waiting to hear someone say --

COMMISSIONER ROBINSON: Those are things that happen in the dark of the night, when Harry Reid or somebody --

COMMISSIONER HOLAHAN: Those are things that happen what, Bob?

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: That happen in the dark of the night, along with the ghosts and the goblins.

COMMISSIONER HOLAHAN: Halloween is coming up.

MS. RUSSELL: Use your mikes because the people on the phone will not be able to hear you.

COMMISSIONER HIGHTOWER: This is Jack. I came up here and with Bob we visited on 9-11 or 9-10. I made the contacts with people that I know. Now, I don't mind going back to the same people, but I don't want to wear my welcome out and they already know, and I'm not sure that in this pre-conference committee time that we should be making direct contacts.

Now, you have a different relationship with Senator Reid and I think that would be proper and he would expect you to probably call him. But for me to my old friends -- and they're old necessarily because it was a long time ago that I served with them -- that it would be appropriate for me to go back and say, now, Ralph, here I am again and I just want to remind you; I don't know whether you can remember that I talked to you earlier. I just would be a little uncomfortable to do that.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: As far as my relationship with Senator Reid, we're working very closely with his office.

COMMISSIONER HIGHTOWER: Sure.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: And Bob is in contact with Carl Meecham and Mary Connelly, who is his chief of staff in Nevada and lives in Reno. She and I talk at least once a week on a number of issues, not just the Commission, but because I am active in other things in the state Democratic Party. So I'm in pretty close contact all the time.

COMMISSIONER ROBINSON: There is such a thing on the Hill as overkill and Jack has just mentioned it. I think the thing that has gone on for this whole year in our relationship with the people that we know -- I think you should call Harry to make sure that it isn't going to fall by the wayside. But otherwise, I think anything more than that is just -- particularly if we're going to have to go back again.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: That's Robby.  
You need to make sure that your microphone is on.

COMMISSIONER ROBINSON: It was on.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: Speak into the mike.

COMMISSIONER ROBINSON: Hello, hello. Is this off? Is this off?

MS. RUSSELL: No, it's on.

COMMISSIONER ROBINSON: Oh, it's on, all right.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: You really have to speak into the mike.

MR. WILLARD: Pretend you're in the classroom.

COMMISSIONER ROBINSON: I don't ever use the mike in the classroom.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: As my husband would say, you have to kiss the microphone.

MR. WILLARD: I would concur with what Robby just said, with one exception. That is that to the extent that we have contacts with or can make contacts with any Republican members of the House conference committee, those are the only people that have an institutional bias against us. I don't think it's very strong, but I think you just have to look at the House of Representatives being Republican-controlled and a Republican President having recommended that we be discontinued, that it makes sense for them to have moved forward with that discontinuation.

However, the Democrats in the House are in favor of us. Steny Hoyer led the charge for us there, and the full Senate is in favor of us. So all it will take is one or two Republican members to say, oh yes, we agree with that and let's go with the Senate.

Charles Benton has recently been in touch with the only librarian to serve in the U.S. Congress, Major Owens, and Jack and I stopped by and tried to visit with him, but he was in New York because the next day was going to be the primary. But his chief of staff remembered Jack from when he was in Congress and we left some material.

But I think, even though Major Owens is not a member of the Appropriations Committee, I think we can talk with him about -- I try not to say "targeting," but -- targeting some of the Republican members of the Appropriations Committee.

COMMISSIONER HIGHTOWER: Well, Bob, I would suggest that as soon as we know the names of the conferees that you contact us or let us know, and then if after looking at that list we feel that it would be appropriate to talk to someone, make the decision then. But to decide right now categorically we are going to contact them I think would be a mistake.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: I agree, Jack.

Also, once we know the names I certainly can go back to Jim. Right now he is on the Select Intel Committee.

MS. RUSSELL: So he's kind of busy.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: So he's a little bit busy, but not so busy that he couldn't call me when he

was home.

MS. RUSSELL: We also have some of the prospective Commissioners who are willing to contact members of Congress. So again, once we see who is on the committee, there are one or two people we should touch base just to make sure they're aware, just to shore up.

VICE CHAIR CHALLINOR: Who are they?

COMMISSIONER ROBINSON: There were about 12 of them.

VICE CHAIR CHALLINOR: The prospective members are 12 now? That's good.

MS. RUSSELL: There's 12 to 14 prospectives. That includes people who are seeking renomination who are on the Commission.

VICE CHAIR CHALLINOR: The more people who are seeking to be on the Commission who are Republican, the better off for us. So how many Republicans? Not the people on.

COMMISSIONER ROBINSON: Nine, I think it is.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: I think Judy can give you that.

MS. RUSSELL: Those names are confidential. We can't talk about them in an open meeting.

COMMISSIONER MASON: When will we know who's on the conference committee?

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: The Senate is supposed to pass this on the 30th of October, so I would imagine within the next week we should know something.

MR. WILLARD: I think what will happen is the instant after they pass the Senate bill, they will then take up the House bill and immediately amend it to replace all its language with the Senate bill. They then have a conferenceable bill, the House bill. They then will immediately appoint the Senate conferees.

So then that's October 30th. October 30th probably, depending on how quick during the day they get it done, they send a message over to the House side saying, we request a conference, and the House then passes a resolution saying, we appoint these conferees. And it may say, we insist on your sticking to the House position on such and such.

But that could happen October 31st, November 1st probably at the latest. You can believe that the staffers already have both bills and they're doing conferencing in their heads right now. They have a side by side that they're working on now. So it could be very quick. It could happen in days.

Remember, they wanted to get out of here in mid - October and they still talk about getting out soon. But there is a conflict on whether they want to be perceived as leaving Washington or being with their constituents, which is more important.



COMMISSIONER HIGHTOWER: I think that's very real and I think the probability is that they're going to stay.

VICE CHAIR CHALLINOR: That's what I think.

COMMISSIONER ROBINSON: After the New York Post headline.

VICE CHAIR CHALLINOR: And they have been so criticized about leaving the building that I think that will keep them in.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: Please note that Winston Tabb was able to join us. Welcome. So then, I think we leave it in terms of anything that's happening until we know the conference committee members and we'll take it from there.

The next issue, Bob, that we were looking at, what's going to happen with the 2003 budget.

COMMISSIONER ROBINSON: Is some of this involved in the issue of amending the Act?

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: The technical amendments that Senator Kennedy's committee is looking at?

COMMISSIONER ROBINSON: Right.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: What is the status of those?

MR. WILLARD: Oh, they're dead.

MS. RUSSELL: They're dead. We have to start over. They had said that they were willing to look at another vehicle, possibly LSTA, possibly other legislation that will be going through their committee, as a vehicle to put in those amendments if they didn't go in the appropriations bill. So that's one of the things we need to do this fall, is to get back.

VICE CHAIR CHALLINOR: Is that Cathy Cruz?

MS. RUSSELL: Yes, back with Cathy. We have one prospective Commissioner who has reached out to the chair of our subcommittee from the House side and we need to pursue that and make a parallel effort on the House side with the oversight committees.

VICE CHAIR CHALLINOR: I have a question. Can you tell the Commissioners later who the prospective members are?

MR. WILLARD: Yes.

MS. RUSSELL: Yes. We just can't discuss their names in an open session.

VICE CHAIR CHALLINOR: Fine.

COMMISSIONER MASON: Could I suggest that the discussion of our approach to the '03 budget might be more appropriately taken up after we discuss the activities that we think we need to be involved in and our priorities. I think that if we have a compelling case for some important activities that we think that the Commission ought to be involved in, then that translates into a much more compelling case for a budget.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: I agree. Okay, Bob.

Then the next thing down that I have on my list is maybe at this point what we need to do is to look at the post-9/11 activities. These have been faxed to people?

MR. WILLARD: We are passing out José's letter.

COMMISSIONER GRIFFITHS: Martha.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: Yes, José.

COMMISSIONER GRIFFITHS: Martha, it seems to me that what we need to do both for the 1.5 million and any subsequent budgets that follow is, rather than look at individual chunks of activities, is to reevaluate all activities current and potential, so that we're really talking about the what-if scenarios.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: I believe that's what we had planned.

COMMISSIONER GRIFFITHS: So rather than focus on one set, the post-9/11, it is the post-9/11 in the context of all activities.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: That is exactly what we were planning on doing.  
Bob.

MR. WILLARD: We are faxing this letter also to Paulette.

VICE CHAIR CHALLINOR: This is your letter, José, to Governor Ridge.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: By the way, I did share this with Senator Reid's staff and as far as I know Harry has it now also.

COMMISSIONER GRIFFITHS: And a copy of the letter was also sent to Governor John Angler of Michigan, who is chairing the National Governors Association.

MR. WILLARD: Great.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: Thank you.

Take a minute or two just to read this, if you would. We will now have what is known as a moment of silence.

COMMISSIONER HOLAHAN: Have you faxed it to me or not?

MR. WILLARD: It's on its way.

COMMISSIONER HOLAHAN: Okay. If it's in another room --

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: What about Bobby?

COMMISSIONER ROBERTS: I'm going to have to leave in just a minute. We're trying to get a new library open today, so I'm going to head out. So let me know whatever I can do.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: Okay.

COMMISSIONER ROBERTS: I'll see you later.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: Thank you.

COMMISSIONER ROBERTS: Bye.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: Bye.

Yes, Marilyn.

COMMISSIONER MASON: One of the items in the letter that Bob did not go over repeats a letter I sent to Michele Ridge and is an invitation to try to get her more involved with the Commission as a Commissioner. José, you and I are really thinking along the same lines. I wrote that letter a few months ago, a long time actually before 9/11. But it seems to me that she could be a very strong advocate and is clearly interested in libraries.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: Who is this?

COMMISSIONER MASON: Michele Ridge, Governor Ridge's wife. She was the Director of the Erie County Library in Pennsylvania and she's very articulate and very committed to libraries.

VICE CHAIR CHALLINOR: I was told when I was in Philadelphia, although Governor Ridge when you see him on television he looks a little bit slow on the answers, I mean physically, that he is quite deaf and that he wears two hearing aids and that that's why when you see him on television he isn't answering bing, bing, bing.

COMMISSIONER MASON: Well, I think one of the important things that we need to think about -- and it occurred to me as we were going through the possible commemorative activities -- is to make sure that what we are doing is consistent with the overall priorities of this administration, and that was really true before 9/11. I think that it's very important to tie in with the individuals. We have now got the President's wife and the wife of Tom Ridge who is a very prominent spokesperson at this time, with background in libraries.

I think the opportunities for and the challenges for libraries are enormous right now. I know I met with a group of library directors here in Washington about two weeks ago and the discussion about the demands on the public library systems for information following the catastrophe was enormous, and they were responding very quickly.

It occurs to me, and this is really building on what José is suggesting, that the kind of distributed information system of libraries across the country, providing independent access to reliable government information, would be extremely important were our communications systems to be disrupted. It would provide a key factor for people to get reliable information and I think could be a very, very important backstop that would combine local information with national information and would get that out of the rumor category.

MS. RUSSELL: This is Judy. I spoke at a meeting of the National Federation of Abstracting and Indexing Societies a little over a week ago. It was held actually at LC, joined up with the Federal Library and Information Center Committee. The whole focus was on government information and that was one of the topics that came up there, was a concern that, given the events of November 11th, how much Federal Government information in terms of the operating web sites on which people rely for everything from things like GPO Access and THOMAS for legislative information to NTIS and others, National Library of Medicine and so forth for major scientific and technical information, that there was enormous pressure to look at more redundancy, to look to having multiple sites in different geographic areas, because even had nobody flown a plane into the National Library of Medicine or into LC or GPO, just the breaking of communications, the communications problems that existed in Washington and New York immediately following the terrorist attacks.

So I think that's an area that follows very much what Marilyn is saying, that there is a need. People already have a high degree of confidence in libraries as trusted sources. But we need to look not just at government information, although the government information's an obvious one, where it's concentrated rather than distributed because it puts you at risk.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: Joan.

VICE CHAIR CHALLINOR: This is Joan speaking. I think what we have to head off is somebody in the White House deciding that there needs to be a commission, that never heard of us, to do this kind of work. In other words, we've got to go in there and say we'd like to do it before somebody thinks, gee, this would be -- you know, they spawn commissions every day and what we want to do is head off.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: Well, you know, this is sort of interesting because it's more than just government information at this level. Part of this discussion goes back to the work that we did and the report that we published last year for McCain and Lieberman's committees. But at the local and the state level, the amount of traffic into libraries was absolutely astounding.

Interestingly enough, Marilyn, José, and myself, one of the first things I did was send a memo to Harry pointing out that, and I brought it down to the State of Nevada, that we had the statewide

networks and they were up and running and giving out information that was good information, and that I felt it was a real role that the Commission could play in helping devise policy issues. Then this wonderful letter from José which I also sent on to Harry. So this is a link, José, following your suggestion, of what we have been doing in terms of what we need to continue to address the post-9/11.

COMMISSIONER GRIFFITHS: Absolutely. What I'm hearing just here locally is that mayors, county administrators, and others are saying, we need to get the information out, that they don't have mechanisms in place.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: It's interesting because -- and again, I don't know what happened in other areas. But for a long time when I was the director of the library in Reno we were part of emergency preparedness because the library had the network. I'm sure that this must be true in a number of communities and states throughout our country.  
Marilyn.

COMMISSIONER MASON: I think that there is another set of activities here that are important as well and that is in the information literacy area. We're already embarked on that in the international arena, and the need for information literacy is higher now than ever. People have no clue how to evaluate the information that they get from a variety of sources.  
The role of libraries, especially public libraries, in helping educate people about how to -- not only to access information, but how to evaluate it once they get it, has never been more important.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: Correct.  
Are there any other comments before we continue with this discussion?

COMMISSIONER ROBINSON: This has to do with Mrs. Ridge, because when I was in Providence -

COMMISSIONER HOLAHAN: I hate to interrupt, but I can't hear you.

COMMISSIONER ROBINSON: Can you hear me now? José, can you hear me?

(No response.)

MR. WILLARD: I think what you have to do is pretend you're talking to Joan.

COMMISSIONER ROBINSON: Okay, shout at Joan.

VICE CHAIR CHALLINOR: It's been done before.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: And be sure it will be done again.

COMMISSIONER ROBINSON: Anyway, when I was in Providence Bob Martin indicated that clearly he was going to see the people at the White House about getting Mrs. Ridge appointed to this Commission. So obviously he's not into getting rid of the Commission, because he thought this

would be a good thing for her to be on. So I just point that out.

COMMISSIONER HOLAHAN: I don't know about José, but I can't hear.

COMMISSIONER GRIFFITHS: None of us can hear.

VICE CHAIR CHALLINOR: Something ought to happen so that --

COMMISSIONER ROBINSON: Can you hear me on this one? It's Robby; can you hear me on this one?

COMMISSIONER GRIFFITHS: No.

COMMISSIONER HOLAHAN: No.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: Robby, you've got to speak just like this.

COMMISSIONER ROBINSON: All right. Can you hear me on this one now?

COMMISSIONER HIGHTOWER: Closer, Robby, closer.

COMMISSIONER ROBINSON: If I get any closer I'll kiss it..

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: That's what you have to do. That's what you're supposed to do.

COMMISSIONER ROBINSON: Can you hear me, José?

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: José, can you hear Robby when he speaks?

COMMISSIONER ROBINSON: I don't even know what I was saying.

MS. RUSSELL: About Bob Martin.

COMMISSIONER ROBINSON: Yes, it was Bob Martin in Providence when he said that he was going to recommend to his people in the Office of Personnel that Mrs. Ridge be appointed to this Commission, and he said they owed him one.

COMMISSIONER HOLAHAN: The answer is when Robby's through would somebody please summarize what he said.

COMMISSIONER HIGHTOWER: Robby, you reduce your volume when you start talking. Try to keep up that volume.

COMMISSIONER ROBINSON: All right.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: All right, speak loudly.

COMMISSIONER ROBINSON: I'll let Martha explain it.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: Bob Martin indicated that he has high consideration for Mrs. Ridge and that he was going to talk to people at the White House about her being appointed to the National Commission, and he seems to have a close working relationship.

Those of you all who are from Texas --

COMMISSIONER HIGHTOWER: We're all close friends.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: Like we are in Nevada.

José, let's get back to what we were discussing, and Marilyn. Do you have any specific suggestions on how we should approach this whole issue and how we can build on the work that we already have done?

COMMISSIONER MASON: Well, we've already done work in finding out how many libraries have access to the Internet and provide public access computing, basically. I think that the idea of libraries providing networks to have access to information is kind of an old thought. It may not be old to the people we need to talk to.

I think if we could have some direct contact. I know we've been trying to have some direct contact with Mrs. Bush, but perhaps Michele Ridge would be another place to get some real interest and involvement in helping out with this project, for instance.

MS. RUSSELL: Do you know her personally?

COMMISSIONER MASON: I have met her, yes. I don't know her well, but we have a very close mutual friend and I have met her.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: One of the things that I might consider doing, because Congressman Gibbons serves on the Select Intel Committee in the House and getting out information to the public during times of crisis certainly is an issue that would come before this committee along with everything else, is that I can take this letter and share it with Jim as I have with Harry.

But I see a need for some kind of coordination. I don't want to see us leaping in four directions, because things have come out on ALAWAN about what libraries are doing, it's been in Library Journal. Certainly we have some concerns and we know at the state and the local level people are doing things. So there has to be some kind of coordination within our own profession so we're all marching together to the same tune and working collaboratively.

COMMISSIONER MASON: Well, I think the Commission has always been an honest broker in the sense that we bring together people with mutual goals to work out mechanisms. We're not an operating agency. We're not going to run a network that does that. We can help, however, bring all the parties together to work out a mechanism for ensuring and bringing together the people, like Tom Ridge or the other people in government, who are very interested in keeping this information current and accurate. We can provide a forum.

I think it would not be at the level of a White House conference. I am sorry to use those three words together in one sentence. But I do think it would be some kind of a very large and public meeting that would bring people together to work out the mechanisms for ensuring that this kind of partnership and collaboration would move forward.

I think that it would have the three prongs that repeat much of what is in José's letter. I see them slightly differently, but not in any material sense. One is to provide the partnership for access to accurate and timely information. The second is to ensure that materials are not lost, that there is the emergency preparedness. I think that's really excellent, José.

VICE CHAIR CHALLINOR: So that's the second prong, that's the second.

COMMISSIONER MASON: Yes, that's the second. Then the third would be information literacy.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: José.

COMMISSIONER GRIFFITHS: Martha, I agree. I think in addition to this national bringing it and having a large public forum might be, another set might be to have a small, focused briefing coordinated by the Commission in Washington for key people, particularly Congressional staffers, Ridge's staff, White House staff, and potentially the staff of the various governors' offices. It seems to me that the people now in this post- 9/11 -- there are two things. One is that from a digital perspective the emergency recovery processes were in place because of Y2K. It was the non-digital materials that sort of got neglected.

But the other thing is now everybody's focused on bioterrorism and it seems to me that this whole issue of information coordination or, if you like, information management and knowledge management, to use the in term, is potentially going to be neglected because the biohazard rises to such a level of prominence.

The group of people that we need to address are the staff people to the decisionmakers. We're not going to get the decisionmakers in a room, but we can get the staff people, to get them to recognize the problems, at the same time we're trying to organize the profession, if you like, to be together and to sing off the same page.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: Then if I understand correctly, you suggest the first thing we do is a briefing for staff people and also bringing entities in from the National Governors Association?

COMMISSIONER GRIFFITHS: And I would bring some of the key representatives of the library and information science world. But I think the Commission -- one of the things is I am being pressed to do that. I think it's the perfect leadership role for the Commission to step up. I'm happy to work on it, but it seems to me it would be a good thing for the Commission to be the agency that fronts this.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: Well, this is very similar to what we did over NTIS.



COMMISSIONER GRIFFITHS: Exactly, exactly. And we ought to be able to show that we can move relatively quickly on it, so it can be a short, focused, two-hour briefing with, here are the issues as we see them, here are the kinds of things that you can do, here are the kinds of resources that we can leverage and bring together, and what do you think of that and what questions do you have?

VICE CHAIR CHALLINOR: I have a question.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: Yes, Joan.

VICE CHAIR CHALLINOR: I understand the first two prongs. I understand less information literacy because it seems to me that has a different time frame than the first two. It seems to me that information literacy is going to be a long, hard job, 10 years, 15 years, whereas the first two prongs that you mentioned I think are immediate can be done. I have less -- let me ask this. What is funded for the information literacy? I know that we funded the last meeting out of ICSECA money. Is the next meeting funded?

MR. WILLARD: No.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: Not at this point.

MR. WILLARD: We have a proposal to raise 125,000 from three different sources, one of them being ICSECA, one of them being NCES, and one of them being --

MS. RUSSELL: AID.

MR. WILLARD: -- AID.

MS. RUSSELL: AID-State, ICSECA, and --

MR. WILLARD: Well, suffice it to say that there is a plan.

VICE CHAIR CHALLINOR: So that is really separate, is that right?

MR. WILLARD: But that is simply for the international conference on information literacy. I think what Marilyn is talking about is far beyond that.

COMMISSIONER MASON: Yes.

VICE CHAIR CHALLINOR: I understand that, but it seems to me that these could go on side by side.

MR. WILLARD: Absolutely.

VICE CHAIR CHALLINOR: The international conference can go on beside, because it's not coming out of our budget.

MS. RUSSELL: In fact, it happens in some senses implicitly if you send people to and through the libraries to get the information because the information has been evaluated. The risk is when people go on the network and just pull down stuff that anybody could have been posting and you don't know whether it's accurate or not.

So, not to use the pejorative word "filtering" in the sense it is often used, but the filtering process that goes on by a library accumulating information from appropriate and reliable sources and putting it out there, teaching literacy in a sense at the same time by the way that they present the resources and the resources they select from.

But you're very right that that is a very long- term process. But in the short term it can happen by directing people to authoritative sources.

VICE CHAIR CHALLINOR: It's a good point.

COMMISSIONER MASON: The validating of information is something libraries have tried to stay away from in a sense and the notion that libraries would point to authoritative sources is really a new thought. Typically, libraries want to provide access to everything for everybody, and yet in an age with lots and lots of disinformation if people, without prohibiting them from looking at anything they wish -- and at the same time, you don't want to become a propaganda agent. It's a very fine line that we walk.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: Bob.

MR. WILLARD: One of the people that we would hope to see at a Commission meeting is the liaison from the Urban Libraries Council and that's Joey Roger. I did talk with her. She was unable to attend here. But she has had a vision of the library brand, of saying this particular information has been validated by, in a topic area and a particular library, that those are known together. So the Cleveland Public Library would be the library that brands information about internal waterways, to pick a subject.

I think she could help us develop that concept a little bit more.

VICE CHAIR CHALLINOR: You might have some trouble with that concept.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: Yes, Winston.

MR. TABB: But I think many of us are having to do this now, particularly in the digital realm. For example, one of the things that we are doing at the Library in the establishment of new portals, information about international resources, is to have our specialists decide which are the best web resources relating to Afghanistan. It does not mean that in our library we don't collect all kinds of things and let people come in and make their own choices, but really it's irresponsible, I think, now not to have specialists, trained librarians, who are doing some selection and pointing in this huge billions of pages of the Internet.

COMMISSIONER MASON: I would think, going back to the question of what we do next, I really

like José's idea of having a small focused brief being for staffers.

COMMISSIONER HOLAHAN: Having what?

COMMISSIONER MASON: A small, focused briefing for staffers of policymakers. I think that she is exactly right that those are the people we need to target on the government side and on the policy side.

I'm going to back off from having a large public meeting to having maybe a medium-sized meeting of library leaders who could grapple with this problem. I think the very fact that we come up with different approaches to it around this table suggests a need to get appropriate people to sit down in one place at one time to talk about moving forward in a cohesive way.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: Bob, at the COSLA meeting, which I could not make because, believe it or not, I could not get a seat on a plane going from Reno to Salt Lake, did this issue come up at all?

MR. WILLARD: Not really, no.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: I find that very interesting.

COMMISSIONER MASON: It's really not surprising, because what I'm hearing from libraries around the country, both public libraries and state libraries, is that everybody is really worried about their budget being cut. So there is a tremendous sense of not -- I don't want to use the word "panic," but concern that they're going to be cutting back on the services they're offering now.

So I wouldn't have been surprised. I think that's why NCLIS can provide a real important leadership role in this area.

MS. RUSSELL: One of the things we talk about, too, in the executive committee meeting -- and I'll throw it on the table as a reminder because of what Marilyn just said -- we need to be very careful that we're not seen to be pushing a huge new unfunded mandate. A lot of money is being pulled together, almost unbelievable sums of money, with very little thought and direction, but just globs of money.

Part of what I think we need to do is to understand what it would cost libraries to provide these services and respond and to see that, rather than public libraries and others being cut in order to redirect money for some of these things, that if they're recognized as a player that there's funding to do this and that we're not pushing unfunded mandates.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: I'm just wondering if in bringing together a meeting of library leaders how much of what we are talking about already is being done at a state and local level and it's transparent to us. So it may not be a question of redirecting resources, but of understanding of resources that are already there, that are being used, but it's transparent to governing authorities because it's just something libraries are doing.

That certainly could be part of the focus, I believe, of a meeting of library leaders, because I suspect that we're doing more on the local level than anyone realizes, and what we're not seeing is either a national or even a state level coordination and collaboration.

That to me, just to bring all of this together so that everybody knows what everybody is doing and the resources are already available in these enormous networks that we have.

COMMISSIONER MASON: I think that's exactly right. In fact, I was in California last week and someone said to me that: Well, why doesn't a library provide a pointer to information about Afghanistan or whatever. I said, you know, they're doing it. But I think that what we don't have -- so I don't think it would take a lot of resources.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: No, it shouldn't.

COMMISSIONER MASON: Because I think libraries already do see this as their mandate. But what is missing is the connectivity among all those efforts and raising the visibility so that people in general understand that libraries are a source of information, of reliable information.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: Before we go any further, I think we really need at this point to take about a ten - minute break, if that's okay.

VICE CHAIR CHALLINOR: Could I say something just before?

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: Yes, Joan.

VICE CHAIR CHALLINOR: I would like to say that I think the whole bioterrorism thing has pointed up how much people need good information. No matter how much we needed it before, the people are not getting the right information, and the government has been criticized for speaking from two voices: be alert, but we can't tell you what to be alert for.

I think that bioterrorism makes what we're talking about even more salient.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: I would suggest it's 9:45; let's take a ten-minute break and come back at 9:55.

(Recess from 9:45 a.m. to 9:59 a.m.)

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: I would like to bring this meeting back to order, please.

VICE CHAIR CHALLINOR: I want to ask a question when it's appropriate.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: Marilyn, I would like to suggest, and I would hope the Commissioners would concur, that we ask Marilyn and José to work together and that we think in terms of reaching out first to, because I think time is of the essence, to bring together some kind of a very quick briefing of staff people and entities from the National Association of Governors, to at least let them understand the types of information available from libraries.

We may not have anything specific beyond raising the awareness that these networks are in place, that the information is good information. I suspect, most particularly in working with the National Association of Governors, that a lot of this work is already being done. Then to follow up, bringing together library leaders so that we have this coordinated effort and everyone knows what's happening.

Marilyn, José, how do you feel about working with staff here? We could do a lot of it by conference calling and by email.

COMMISSIONER MASON: Yes, that's fine.

COMMISSIONER GRIFFITHS: That's fine. I'm happy to.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: Winston.

MR. TABB: Madam Chairman, I think this is a great idea, but I think if we're going to be successful in doing this it needs to be focused, not only on the fact that information is available and it's important, but on the fact that it's at risk.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: Absolutely, absolutely.

MR. TABB: Because I just think that's the only hook that's got people right now and I think we need to make sure we remember that, so that it will not get lost.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: I'm sure we'll make sure it doesn't get lost. VICE CHAIR  
CHALLINOR: In what way at risk? Of not being preserved or of not getting out?

MR. TABB: Of not being preserved or saved. That's what we're talking about, I think, in the post - 9/11 situation.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: That is definitely one of the issues.

Someone else started to speak?

COMMISSIONER MASON: Yes, it was me. I would think that we might want to be working also with Winston on this effort. I would think the Library of Congress would be a good site for such a briefing.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: I agree, I agree. Winston, you'll also be involved in this?

MR. TABB: (Nods affirmatively.)

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: Thank you. So it looks like all the Commissioners concur. Bob, did you want to say something?

MR. WILLARD: Just one additional point that was brought to my attention by one of the individuals who would like to be a Commissioner. That is that there's a function for libraries -- ironically, if it were not for this meeting right now, Martha and Joan would be having a meeting with a representative of the library services in the Department of State, who run the libraries in all of our embassies and the information centers in the various embassies.

I think there's a role that those entities play in terms of explaining to the rest of the world the uniqueness of America. I think one of the reasons for the attack, whether you consider it justifiable or not, and I certainly don't, but one of the reasons for the attack was a misunderstanding of what it is about America. Those libraries can play a role in getting the message across. So I think it would be good to include that in the mission of the task force also.

VICE CHAIR CHALLINOR: Does that de-focus us?

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: No. If anything, I think it makes us stronger.

MR. TABB: I don't know where we want to go politically with this, but I think those libraries are also at risk.

COMMISSIONER ROBINSON: More at risk than most of the domestic libraries, probably.

MS. RUSSELL: I imagine access to the embassies has been so restricted that their ability to help people get access to information is probably --

COMMISSIONER ROBINSON: Well, a lot of these libraries are not actually at the site of the embassy. A lot of them are the old USIA library.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: No, most of them are now in embassies. That's a big change. Also, I want to remind Marilyn and Winston and José that we need to work in close collaboration with Lynn and the ALA Washington office, because down the road -- and COSLA and the Urban Library Council -- these are the entities that I can just quickly, off the top of my head, think of. But I leave it up to the good offices of Marilyn, José, and Winston to make sure that we reach out to everyone we need to reach out to because, along another line, we are also looking at not only -- well, the reauthorization of LSTA, and this I think raises the visibility of the importance of library networks and information.

So, Marilyn, would you be willing to be the point person?

COMMISSIONER MASON: Sure.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: I really appreciate, and will be in touch on a time frame. But we have to move, I think, fairly quickly.

VICE CHAIR CHALLINOR: Madam Chairman.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: Yes.

VICE CHAIR CHALLINOR: If we're to include the embassy libraries, then that comes under the International Committee. So I should be in the loop.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: Well, of course.

VICE CHAIR CHALLINOR: I just wanted to say that.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: You're here, Joan, and I'm in Reno, Nevada, so it's automatic.

This is the first thing and we have José's proposal, which is just wonderful, and it's nice to know that we all think along the same lines.

Okay. The next issue then is, we're going to move ahead on this and this also ties to the work that we did last year. We don't want to forget that, because we did talk about preservation and archiving of information as well as access.

Next. The other issue I would like to bring up in terms of 9/11 -- and this goes back again to the hearing that we had -- school libraries, and this also ties into information literacy. This is Martha speaking. I think it's extremely important that we move ahead with the work that we did to get that hearing, the proceedings of the school library hearing, out.

When I go back to Reno on the 12th, on the 13th, there is a three-day meeting as one of three regional meetings that the Department of Education is doing looking at how we're going to improve our schools. I am going to attend that. The Secretary of Education is going to be at Reno. At least he's scheduled to be in Reno. I looked at the agenda; there was not anything there about school libraries, nothing about information literacy.

It was basically all computer and information technology of knowing how to use computers, but not making that leap to evaluation of the information, how to bring the information and the use of computers into the classroom as part of classroom lesson plans. It was strictly teaching teachers, the importance of teachers knowing how to get onto the Internet, which really sort of irritates me.

So I would really like to open up the discussion of how we can continue to follow up on the work that we did with the school libraries hearing.

COMMISSIONER BINGHAM: Now, I'm really concerned.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: Gee, I don't know why, Rebecca.

COMMISSIONER ROBINSON: We're pretty close to having the whole --

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: What is the status of that particular report, Judy, Bob?

MS. RUSSELL: We have a consultant who is working on the editing. Rosalie is putting together some additional materials to be sent out to go into the appendices. But I would think -- I would hope

that within 30 to 45 days we'll have it back, ready to finalize here to send out for printing. So we should have it in December printed, or certainly no later than early January.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: Good. So we'll continue with that.  
Are there any comments from the Commissioners as to how we follow along in crafting some policy issues that should be looked at?

(No response.)

A great and overwhelming silence.

VICE CHAIR CHALLINOR: Well, because we have a big one in front of us.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: That is I think the number one issue. \

VICE CHAIR CHALLINOR: How much of the budget will that take? What are we talking about now? Have we spent the money?

COMMISSIONER BINGHAM: That's what always happens to school library.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: Judy.

MS. RUSSELL: We talked a little bit about bringing the budgeting back kind of at the end of the meeting and I think that's appropriate because I think we've got to look at priorities and then come back and play with the money, because we have to do two things, one of which is to set the priorities for spending the presumed 1.5 that we'll have this year and then also decide how much are we going to ask for 2003 and what's the emphasis on that, so the staff can begin pulling that together.

But it seems to me that, just as this past year when we were struggling with the appropriations issue, the thing that you and Bob and others kept saying in each of the meetings was to try to keep the Commission on track with what the Commission does and not derail everything we were doing. If you look at the complexity of what we were doing, even in a year when so much energy was pulled off defending on the budget, I think there are some of these long-term commitments to government information and disabilities and school libraries that are the kinds of bread and butter issues that are the reason that we're here.

I think that we have enough dexterity to layer those things in and not end up putting all of our eggs in one basket and letting some of these other important issues slip. I think we need to keep on. We're still looking --

COMMISSIONER HOLAHAN: There's a history of how long we've been dealing with school libraries and not really moving forward with it. I think we should certainly not table it at this juncture.

COMMISSIONER BINGHAM: I would concur in that.



CHAIRPERSON GOULD: Okay. Robby, Winston, Jack, any comments?

MR. TABB: Short of having a draft in hand, to refresh our memories for those of us who aren't thinking about this every day, I think it's hard for me to really focus on this at the moment, to be honest.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: Okay.

COMMISSIONER ROBINSON: In terms of priorities, I think school libraries are more important than this massive but still unfocused issue about the disability thing that we were talking about a month ago. I never quite got off on exactly where we were going with that, except we probably should have another study. But I think that school libraries we've already done the study on, we've already had the hearings. We ought to be moving forward in the school library area.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: Okay. I happen to agree with that.

COMMISSIONER BINGHAM: I have an observation to make. Since we plan to do this and since we have a national conference coming up -- unfortunately, I won't be able to be there to make the remarks I thought I would be able to make. I wonder, will you be there, Martha?

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: When is this?

COMMISSIONER BINGHAM: Oh, gosh, that's November 13th or something like that.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: That's when I'm going to be at that national education meeting in Reno.

COMMISSIONER BINGHAM: It's going to be in Indianapolis and I had asked for permission to go and I was going to have some time for remarks at the opening general session. I think that school librarians need to be made aware of what's going on and the role they should play.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: Had you written out your remarks?

COMMISSIONER BINGHAM: No, I hadn't. But I can write out remarks.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: Would you and we'll get them in to the office and we'll see if there's another Commissioner who might be able to attend. Otherwise, we may be able to --

COMMISSIONER BINGHAM: Well, I had reservations and everything, but with this change in my condition I felt I better not chance it.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: Just put your remarks together, and if we don't have a Commissioner who can make it either Bob or Judy will go.

COMMISSIONER BINGHAM: All right.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: Rebecca, what would happen if we did a tape of you making the

remarks and made it available?

COMMISSIONER BINGHAM: Well, that could well be done.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: I think that's not a bad idea. It's known as use technology.

COMMISSIONER BINGHAM: Yes, that would be a nice way to do it, with technology. Perhaps it could be done at the local free public library or maybe in a school library.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: Why don't I have Bob get in touch with you after this meeting and we'll see what we can set up and make the videotape available at the opening session.

COMMISSIONER BINGHAM: All right. I think that that would be a very good idea.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: Thank you. Bob, thank you, because it was Bob's idea. He just slipped me a note that said "Videotaped," and I thought, ah-ha.

MS. RUSSELL: We can have somebody else on the ground to sort of interface with them as well. But I think the message will carry more impact coming from Rebecca because she is part of that community known to them.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: Great. So we will go ahead and we will do that. You're going to be on camera.

COMMISSIONER BINGHAM: Okay.

COMMISSIONER ROBINSON: You sound so enthusiastic.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: And we are going to continue, I think we have to continue, with all of the statistical work that we are doing. First of all, what is the status of the memorandum of understanding with NCES?

MS. RUSSELL: They won't move on it, nor can we, until our budgets are passed. Our budgets are in the same bill. Denise is working on a draft memorandum, so that as soon as we both have final budgets that draft memorandum will start through the laborious process of getting signed off in all the 27 places that it needs to be signed on.

It will be a smaller amount of money this year, as I mentioned earlier. 116,000 of the money for this year is specifically for the project and geocoding. But nevertheless, they do want us to continue in our role in managing the library statistics program. So we're hoping -- of course we say this every year -- we're hoping that we will have it signed earlier in the year. But we're trying to have it signed not later than early January and sooner if at all possible.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: Well, one of the reasons I feel so strongly about the statistics program is that it gives us a real basis with empirical data in terms of how libraries make use of technology, libraries that have access to the Internet.

If I remember correctly, they were looking also at school connectivity.

MS. RUSSELL: Right, and one of the strongest recommendations that came out of the school libraries hearing is the fact that the data we have is so old that it doesn't help the policymaking, that we need to be having timely data. So working with NCES and focusing on how we can get that information in time for it to be useful, both for local policymaking and for national policymaking, is critical.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: So if I have everything in my mind correctly, that top priority in terms of what we're going to be doing in this fiscal year, that is now - - well, that starts the first -- no, it has started; I keep on losing months -- with Marilyn as the point person, working with José, Winston, and staff, we're going to pull together some kind of a briefing program.

We'll be pulling in the ALA Washington office to work with us on this, along with COSLA and the Urban Library Council and hopefully the National Association of Governors, and of course Governor Ridge's Homeland Security Agency, and really begin to do something. Then we're going to be looking to continue the work with the school libraries and also along with that almost on a parallel basis will be the statistics program will continue on.

That then brings us down to this point. You're going to continue to do some work on the planning for the international information literacy project. That will continue. We'll be working with the National Forum for Information Literacy.

Now, this gets us down to disabilities. Disabilities took up approximately 6 percent of the budget last year.

MS. RUSSELL: About half of that was the preparation and publication of the book and about half of it was the preparatory research by Howard Harris to help us decide what our next steps might be. We do now have in house -- I don't think we've finished editing it in house; I don't think it's gone to the Commissioners yet -- his kind of revised document, but based on some of the conference calls.

Do you want to comment further on that, Bob?

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: Bob -- or actually Marilyn, did you want to say something, or do you want to wait for Bob's comments?

COMMISSIONER MASON: No, that is fine.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: Okay. Bob?

MR. WILLARD: With regard to the disabilities issue, I really felt that that was supposed to be the September 12th meeting and therefore it should really get full discussion at the December meeting. I said in an earlier executive committee meeting that the probability of any sort of terrorist activity of a scale that we saw on September 11th happening again exists. There is the probability of that, but it is very low.

The probability of an individual with disabilities going into a library and not being able to take advantage of those resources the same way as an able person could is very high. We know that. So I strongly urge the Commission to continue putting some effort in this. Clearly, it will not be our major initiative, but I think if you look at our statute we have to focus on the needs of special populations and the disabled population, depending on what sort of definition you use and where in life you are, probably includes all of us at one point or another.

COMMISSIONER BINGHAM: I am finding that out.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: Aren't we all.

MR. WILLARD: So at this point I would ask the Commission's indulgence in saying, let us shape this project up better so we can understand what the opportunities and then take it under consideration at the December meeting.

The thing I wanted to emphasize is we do have that tradition. In the pie chart it's where we marked it as "Statistics and Surveys." We have that tradition of each year engaging in some sort of original statistical effort or study, principally focused on Internet for the past six years almost. Well, '94 was the first survey.

The way it has traditionally happened is toward the end of the year, if some money were available, you say: Well, let's do this study. I think the Commission should get out of that mode and instead should say: Here is a topic area that needs work and over the next three or four years here is what we see we can be doing, because again, like so many other issues, it isn't going to be solved overnight, but we can clarify the issue. We can begin to develop policy recommendations. I think we ought never to lose sight of the fact that to many members of the Congress, including the chairman of our appropriations subcommittee, the Americans with Disabilities Act is a landmark piece of legislation that they believe in strongly. I think that we have the ability to say how the library community can help support, can act more effectively within the framework of that important law.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: You know, this brings to mind also something else. Many of you may remember seeing this in the post-September 11th. That is the problem and the fact that there were people who perished because they were disabled and were not able to be -- they worked on the upper floors. And people thought, well, you're in a wheelchair, you take an elevator. Well, there were no elevators.

COMMISSIONER ROBINSON: Somebody got carried down.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: That's correct. Then there was another gentleman who was wheelchair-bound. They could not get him down and he perished along with a friend who chose to stay with him. So I think that this is something that we can't forget. Especially, it comes very close to home for some of us.

So if I understand the priorities that I'm looking at right now from this discussion, again the briefing

for staff people on the things that are available in libraries and highlighting the issues of preservation of very important information will be the first thing that we will work on. Marilyn is going to be a point person working with José, Winston, the Washington office, COSLA, coordinating, and staff will help her.

We will continue the work with NCES. We will continue the work with school libraries. At our meeting in December we will come back with more information on what we are going to carry forth in terms of follow-up with our disabilities hearing.

Is that pretty much the feeling of the Commissioners, that I have summarized it okay?

VICE CHAIR CHALLINOR: Well, we will get in the December meeting a new, more focused thing on disabilities?

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: Yes.

VICE CHAIR CHALLINOR: So we can decide what we want to do?

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: Yes, that is correct.

VICE CHAIR CHALLINOR: God knows what may happen before December 6th.

COMMISSIONER ROBINSON: Is it my understanding that we're no longer -- the Sister Libraries --

COMMISSIONER BINGHAM: We're no longer what?

COMMISSIONER ROBINSON: Well, my question was, we had \$163,000 for the Sister Libraries. I got the feeling that was being phased out.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: Well, the program is over. We're in the process now of the final report, and I'm not sure where it stands. Beth, are you still there?

MS. BINGHAM: Yes, ma'am.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: Rosalie, you and Beth and Joan, what's happening with that report? I know you were waiting on some kind of permission to get the final survey out.

MS. VLACH: Right. We still don't have clearance from OMB. However, we were able to send out some evaluation forms, assessment forms, to ten libraries -- or, excuse me, nine libraries who just happened to be parts of consortia, so that they distributed. So we are using that as our basis and we are starting to -- we've really made quite good progress on our draft report.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: I received an email last week and I got back to Liz Henkel in San Diego. They are so enthusiastic about this program that they want to expand it and they have been expanding it between San Diego and Tijuana. I will follow up, Beth, I will follow up with you and

Rosalie on getting some kind of a letter back the Liz on this issue.

So we're in the phasing out of this project, which was a closed-ended project. It ended with the end of the millennium, December 31st.

MS. RUSSELL: The expenses largely this year will be the completion of the assessment and then whatever minimal expenses there are for the handoff in terms of working with UNESCO to effect the handoff. But they should be significantly less than what we have spent in the past, and then it ceases to be an expense after that.

VICE CHAIR CHALLINOR: We ought to try and pass it on to UNESCO. We're in touch with UNESCO on a lot of things now, so that's one of the things. Certainly we can't keep it up. We have no intention of keeping it up.

COMMISSIONER ROBINSON: I was just saying, now that we're going to get into the UNESCO thing, don't we need to have some resolution at our committee meeting and all this preliminary stuff about the meeting of experts, etcetera? Otherwise it seems to be a little --

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: That, the meeting of the experts, has to do with information literacy. The school library project is something, the Sister Libraries project, is something that UNESCO is very interested in.

COMMISSIONER ROBINSON: I was switching to something important, which is I think we've been doing all these hearings, etcetera. We don't really know, we don't really have the guidance of having, I don't think, a vote by the Commissioners on where we ought to be going, on how much we ought to be spending.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: I think that the final decision and resolution will be at the December meeting.

COMMISSIONER ROBINSON: Okay.

MS. RUSSELL: When Woody gets back he's to do some follow-up activities to put together a more complete proposal. Obviously, before we can go to the State Department or any of the other agencies to seek funding, we have to have a more formal proposal. He's going to pull together that in draft and that will be presented to the Commission, and if accepted by the Commission it will then go out to those agencies to seek the funding.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: Okay.

MS. BINGHAM: Last night I was watching George Bush's thing on the new children's initiative, and I thought that maybe someone might be able to follow up and say that the Commission has already been working on this the past couple of years through the Sister Libraries project, for the global awareness for children and activities and that type of thing.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: Absolutely.

COMMISSIONER BINGHAM: I think that should certainly be brought to the attention in this briefing meeting that's planned, Beth, because everything he was saying in his remarks last night was kind of the principles of what we've been working with.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: That's a very good point. Thank you, Beth. Winston, you wanted to say something?

MR. TABB: I was going to reinforce the point that Robby had made, that to the degree we're putting together a catalogue of areas of potential focus in FY '02 that we need to have a fourth category on this disposition of this literacy project.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: Well, we have our work cut out for us. There are a couple of things before we lose Rebecca, so that we have a quorum still. Bob, you had a resolution in terms of -- all right, go on.

MR. WILLARD: It clearly is something that all I need is an indication from the Commission on whether or not to come back to you in the December meeting with a more fully developed program for the commemorative activity I suggested in terms of honoring Bessie, not really just honoring Bessie, but using the occasion of her hundredth birthday as an opportunity to focus on the Commission, her contributions to it, but also the Commission's contributions in general. We missed out on the thirtieth anniversary, but I think an organization needs something like that every now and then.

COMMISSIONER BINGHAM: I agree.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: Do we have a consensus, then, to move ahead?

COMMISSIONER MASON: I guess I'd like more information.

MR. WILLARD: That's what I'm asking you: Do you want more information? If so, I will do it at the next meeting.

COMMISSIONER MASON: Yes.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: That's what we're saying. So that will be an agenda item for our meeting.  
Yes, Winston.

MR. TABB: If I could, I think it would be very useful if we could think about having it not only as a commemoration, but having it tied to at least one of these four items that we're talking about, perhaps all of them or something. But I think miscellany is what we need not to be doing. So if it could be focused on any one of these areas that we've described, the four areas of focus for '92.

COMMISSIONER BINGHAM: Who is talking?

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: Winston.

MR. TABB: I'm sorry. Maybe Martha can repeat the general point.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: Well, basically Winston feels that in the commemoration that we should tie it to one of the four activities that we've been talking about. And knowing how Bessie felt about children and school libraries and the Sister Libraries project, all of this comes together I think rather neatly.

MR. TABB: And information literacy, too.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: This ties into information literacy. So I think we have something that we can bring back to the group for the meeting December 6th.

Bob, do you have the resolution that gives the executive committee --

MR. WILLARD: Yes. Jack, do you have it?

COMMISSIONER HIGHTOWER: Yes.

VICE CHAIR CHALLINOR: Could I see it? I haven't had a copy of this. You had a copy first?

COMMISSIONER HIGHTOWER: I was proofing it.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: Did we fax this to people or should I read it?

COMMISSIONER HIGHTOWER: Madam Chairman, would this resolution be appropriate?

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: Right.

COMMISSIONER HIGHTOWER: Madam Chairman, I have a resolution and I would like to make this resolution.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: Yes, please.

COMMISSIONER HIGHTOWER: Be it resolved, that in the event the actual number of members of the National Commission on Libraries --

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: Jack, close to the microphone.

COMMISSIONER BINGHAM: Do we have this? Have we received it?

COMMISSIONER HIGHTOWER: No, we just have received it.

All right, now: "Be it resolved, that in the event the actual number of members of National Commission on Libraries and Information Science is less than 8 (a quorum as established by 20



U.S.C. 1505(a)), the executive committee consisting of Martha Gould, Joan Challinor, José Marie Griffiths, and Jack Hightower, is hereby empowered to act on behalf of the Commission in all capacities.

"Be it further resolved, that such condition shall be deemed an emergency situation by the National Commission on Libraries and Information Science.

"And be it further resolved, that the Chair of the National Commission on Libraries and Information Science communicate to the President of the United States the urgent need to make appointments to the Commission.

"And be it further resolved that the Chair of the National Commission on Libraries and Information Science communicate to the Congress the need for legislative action to prevent any similar situation in the future by continuing terms of members until their replacement has been appointed and-or redefining a quorum as a majority of the number of current members."

Madam Chairman, I move the adoption of the resolution.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: Is there a second?

VICE CHAIR CHALLINOR: Wait a minute. I have a discussion.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: You can't discuss until it's been seconded.

COMMISSIONER ROBINSON: Second.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: It has been seconded by Donald Robinson.

COMMISSIONER HOLAHAN: And I have a question.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: Okay, Paulette.

COMMISSIONER HOLAHAN: There were two. It's twofold. One is, did you have a duration on this resolution? I was following on the draft and I didn't hear it.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: Until there is a quorum.

COMMISSIONER HOLAHAN: For the executive committee to be so authorized?

COMMISSIONER HIGHTOWER: It's for action in the absence of a quorum.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: In other words, if there is a quorum --

COMMISSIONER HOLAHAN: Is that indefinitely.

MS. RUSSELL: Any time when there is --

COMMISSIONER HOLAHAN: From henceforward?

MS. RUSSELL: In the event.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: It states "in the event," so this would only happen if there were not a quorum.

MS. RUSSELL: As soon as a quorum came into being --

COMMISSIONER HOLAHAN: I don't have any objection to it. I simply wanted to clarify that. The question I do bring forward, though, is, rather than naming the people by name, they should be a designation, because if it is indefinite then by naming Martha, Jack, whatever -- I think you should name the chair, designated people, to be whatever, elected by the Commission or whatever, so that you don't -- supposing Jack goes off the board or the Commission or Martha goes off the Commission. You then have written in the resolution their names rather than their title x.

COMMISSIONER HIGHTOWER: I think that's a great point. I think we could just scratch the names and just say "the executive committee" and whoever that committee is constituted of at that time.

COMMISSIONER HOLAHAN: Figure out how the committee is constituted, that was my thought only.

MS. RUSSELL: The current definition of the executive committee is the chair and the vice chair and the chairs of all sitting committees, permanent committees, and the chair has the discretion to add other members as needed.

COMMISSIONER HOLAHAN: That's a large number of people.

VICE CHAIR CHALLINOR: That's too many.

COMMISSIONER HOLAHAN: Because then you have to have a quorum, because then you've got yourself into another problem.

MS. RUSSELL: At the moment it's seven people, so it's not a problem.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: Why don't we say the chair, the vice chair, and designated members of the executive committee.

COMMISSIONER HIGHTOWER: To constitute the executive committee.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: Just leave it as "the executive committee."

COMMISSIONER HOLAHAN: You have to figure out who's the executive committee and how they're designated and simply put that into your resolution. That can be worked out. But if that

concept is okay with you all, then somebody can work out the wording.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: I agree.

COMMISSIONER HIGHTOWER: Certainly. We'll work on the final wording here in just a minute.

COMMISSIONER HOLAHAN: Actually, I don't want Jack to be on it.

COMMISSIONER HIGHTOWER: I'm crying.

(Laughter.)

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: Winston.

MR. TABB: I don't have any issue with this particular resolution, but I do think this does not deal with the issue of duration of the resolution.

VICE CHAIR CHALLINOR: Yes, exactly.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: It says "in the event."

MR. TABB: This solves one problem, but it doesn't actually deal with the issue of duration. The resolution as presented talks about at any point when there is a quorum of less than eight. Then the very last paragraph talks about what we would like Congress to do. What happens if Congress agrees to this?

So we need, I think, to deal with this in a technical way.

MS. RUSSELL: Well, if Congress changes the statute so that a quorum is redefined --

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: Then that's it.

MS. RUSSELL: Then this becomes moot.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: This should automatically sunset.

MS. RUSSELL: What you're saying is it should actually say that?

COMMISSIONER HOLAHAN: Well, it may become moot, but you may still not have a quorum even under the new terms.

MS. RUSSELL: Well, the proposed language that we had discussed with the oversight committee is that a quorum would be the majority of members, voting members currently appointed.

COMMISSIONER BINGHAM: Yes, but it's possible that you may not have even that at some

point. So you're still empowering an executive committee. That's why I asked about duration. I think you're talking about something that's going to be in effect regardless and ongoing. It is subject to manipulation, I suppose, but I doubt seriously that would ever occur. But that was just something I brought up.

MR. TABB: Excuse me. One way of dealing with the issue is to say that there is less than a quorum established by law, rather than saying less than eight, citing the specific statute.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: Would it help to put a sunset date in, such as --

VICE CHAIR CHALLINOR: No, no, no, no, no, no.

MS. RUSSELL: I think you're right, just taking out the "eight."

VICE CHAIR CHALLINOR: That's what I think.

MS. RUSSELL: The simply say, it goes "less than a quorum established by 20 U.S.C. 1505(a)."

COMMISSIONER BINGHAM: What are you taking out?

MR. WILLARD: By the way, this has been faxed to the three people on the conference call.

COMMISSIONER GRIFFITHS: Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: You want to take out the "eight" so that it reads as "less than"?

MS. RUSSELL: "A quorum established by law, the executive committee is empowered to act."

MR. TABB: That would cover us both now and in the future, assume Congress does make the change.

COMMISSIONER BINGHAM: Change to "currently established by law." We're going to look at that as something. Why not put "currently in effect"?

COMMISSIONER HIGHTOWER: No, I would prefer "established by law." That way we'll always be able to find out what the law is. We may disagree about it, but we can find out what the law is.

MS. RUSSELL: There might be a new section number if they enact changes. Right now our statute really says "quorum" and the interpretation is based on an opinion from the Department of Justice about a general statute dealing with quorums for executive organizations. So it isn't actually our statute that is setting the eight. It's the Justice Department interpretation based on some other law as to how to read our law.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: So if I understand correctly, it would read now "Be it resolved, that in the event the actual number of members of the National Commission on Libraries and Information

Science" --

MR. WILLARD: "Science" should be singular throughout this. I apologize for that typo.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: -- "is less than a quorum as established by law, the executive committee is hereby empowered to act on behalf of the Commission."

COMMISSIONER BINGHAM: The executive committee and then somewhere in there you define how the executive committee is formed.

MS. RUSSELL: I think somewhere else the executive committee is established. Now, Winston had something else.

MR. TABB: I wanted to raise another issue. This is the last paragraph.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: Yes.

MR. TABB: It would be my preference that we not give options, but that we say that we would like "situation in the future by continuing terms of members until their replacement has been appointed," period, because I think this makes more sense. If you offer options, they may choose the second one.

I think the Commission maybe should think about what would we really like to have happen and in the resolution we're adopting decide for one or the other if people really care. I would strongly prefer --

COMMISSIONER BINGHAM: Would Martha summarize what's being suggested, please?

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: In other words, what Winston is suggesting -- do you have it in front of you now?

COMMISSIONER BINGHAM: Yes.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: At the very last paragraph - -

COMMISSIONER BINGHAM: Are we supposed to have it at this juncture? I'm going to go look at my fax.

VICE CHAIR CHALLINOR: Do you have it, José?

COMMISSIONER GRIFFITHS: I'm going to go get it.

MS. RUSSELL: While they're going to get theirs, in fact what we had proposed to the oversight committee was both things. That is, to redefine the quorum, because this is the more common language that is currently used when new commissions are established, and to also -- and both of these, in any new commissions they're commonly now saying that their terms shall continue until

replaced and that a quorum is a majority of sitting members.

So we are really seeking both and not either- or. So I think that taking out the "or" really solves it.

COMMISSIONER BINGHAM: Can I ask that it be faxed again? It's not legible. It seems to be pushed together in the middle.

But what are you talking about, the last part?

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: The last part.

Judy, you want strike the "or" and it would read "Be it further resolved that the Chair of the National Commission on Libraries and Information Science communicate to the Congress the need for legislative action to prevent any similar situation in the future by continuing terms of members until their replacement has been appointed and redefining a quorum as a majority of the number of current Commissioners."

COMMISSIONER BINGHAM: Correct.

MS. RUSSELL: We want both changes made in the statute.

VICE CHAIR CHALLINOR: Actually, I think we ought to wait until everybody has a legible copy in front of them if we're going to take a vote on this.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: Well, we are.

COMMISSIONER HOLAHAN: But that's the only change? It's the third paragraph I can't read, so if somebody just wants to read the third paragraph to me I'll be happy.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: Okay. This is the third paragraph: "Be it further resolved that the Chair of the National Commission on Libraries and Information Science communicate to the President of the United States the urgent need to make appointments to the Commission."

COMMISSIONER HOLAHAN: I agree with that.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: José, do you have your copy?

COMMISSIONER GRIFFITHS: I don't have my copy. They're chasing it down. But it sounds fine.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: Why don't I ask Jack to read this, or do you want me to do it, Jack?

COMMISSIONER HIGHTOWER: I'd be happy to.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: Thank you.

COMMISSIONER HIGHTOWER: "Be it resolved, that in the event the actual number of members of the National Commission on Libraries and Information Sciences is less than a quorum as established by law, the executive committee is hereby empowered to act on behalf of the Commission in all capacities.

"Be it further resolved, that such condition shall be deemed an emergency situation by the National Commission on Libraries and Information Science.

"And be it further resolved, that the Chair of the National Commission on Libraries and Information Science communicate to the President of the United States the urgent need to make appointments to the Commission.

"And be it further resolved that the Chair of the National Commission on Libraries and Information Science communicate to the Congress the need for legislative action to prevent any similar situation in the future by continuing terms of members until their replacement has been appointed and redefining a quorum as a majority of the number of current members."

COMMISSIONER BINGHAM: "And by redefining," yes, it sounds good to me.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: Are there any other comments?

COMMISSIONER ROBINSON: It's been accepted by the seconder.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: Thank you. It's been accepted by the seconder of the resolution. Are there any additional discussion?

COMMISSIONER BINGHAM: I'm going back to this, what did you all decide about how you're going to define "executive committee"?

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: That's already been done in our Bylaws.

COMMISSIONER BINGHAM: Okay, all right.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: Then I will call for a vote. All those in favor please indicate by saying aye.

(A chorus of ayes.)

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: Any opposed?

(No response.)

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: It's been passed unanimously. Thank you very much. You have given me marvelous abilities.

(Laughter.)

COMMISSIONER ROBINSON: To remove the Commission.

(Laughter.)

COMMISSIONER BINGHAM: At this point I'm afraid I'm going to have to leave the conference call.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: I think the last thing that we need to talk about right now is, do you feel that we have accomplished everything that we have discussed today that will be on the agenda for Thursday morning in December, which would be December 6th, or do you feel that we need to meet also in the afternoon on the 5th of December?

COMMISSIONER ROBINSON: It seems to me that if we're going to get into a presentation on the disabilities proposal then that would probably need to be in the afternoon of the 5th.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: Did everybody hear Robby? He feels that we ought to meet on the afternoon of the 5th as well as the morning of the 6th.

COMMISSIONER BINGHAM: It sounds good to me.

COMMISSIONER HOLAHAN: When will we know, for instance -- I guess we'll know by November, the beginning of November, whether or not Congress -- in other words, I'm trying to determine whether or not I'm still going to be on this Commission.

MS. RUSSELL: We're going to be going day by day for the month.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: It's day by day. We simply don't know. My gut feeling, and pretty much I think unless there's a big change from what I've been hearing from Senator Reid's chief of staff in Nevada, is that they will recess at the call.

COMMISSIONER ROBINSON: Besides, our Commission actually has to do only with the length of time of the Senate, not with the House. The House can go away, but it's the Senate's session.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: Yes, that is correct.

COMMISSIONER HOLAHAN: What if that happens?

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: As long as they recess, you are still there.

COMMISSIONER BINGHAM: That goes for me, too?

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: That is correct -- no?



COMMISSIONER BINGHAM: At this point I'm going to have to leave.

COMMISSIONER HOLAHAN: Goodbye, Rebecca. Have a good recovery.

COMMISSIONER BINGHAM: I hope you realize while you were here the health attendant came and took my blood pressure.

COMMISSIONER HOLAHAN: I hope you're fine.

COMMISSIONER BINGHAM: I feel all right, except I'm on all this medication. I feel without it I wouldn't be in such good shape.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: Rebecca, don't go yet. Bob just has something to say.

MR. WILLARD: Rebecca, your appointment as a Commissioner continues until the earlier of either July 19th next year or the appointment by the President of someone else.

COMMISSIONER BINGHAM: I see. Well, I would encourage that he be amenable to appointing somebody with a school library view.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: We understand. Thank you. I'll be in touch with you later.

COMMISSIONER BINGHAM: Well, thank you very much. All right. Bye-bye.

COMMISSIONER GRIFFITHS: Martha, Martha.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: Yes, José.

COMMISSIONER GRIFFITHS: Can I clarify what's happening about just the times of our meeting in December? Are you saying the 5th and the 6th is the timing of the meeting?

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: Yes. We start at 2:00 o'clock in the afternoon of the 5th.

COMMISSIONER GRIFFITHS: I may have a conflict that afternoon. I'm not sure yet. Somebody just stepped out, so when they come back in I'll know.

VICE CHAIR CHALLINOR: Just give me your vote, José.

MS. RUSSELL: You would leave on the 7th, because the morning of the 6th we would have a Commission-only meeting. The afternoon of the 6th is the joint meeting with the Museum Services Board and then the standard joint dinner would be Thursday evening. So we were planning in any case on having most of you arrive on the 5th because you would have to be there for the morning. So now we'll move that up a little bit.

COMMISSIONER GRIFFITHS: My problem is I think I have already committed the 4th and the 5th at the University of Maryland.

COMMISSIONER ROBINSON: Take the subway.

MS. RUSSELL: So anyway, we'll get an email out confirming, just so you all have it in writing. But we would plan then for most of you to come in the morning of the 5th. Some of you who are coming from the great distance may come the evening of the 4th, and then everyone would plan to go home on the 7th.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: Yes, I'm coming in on the 4th, provided I can find a plane that will take me to a hub so I can fly to another place.

VICE CHAIR CHALLINOR: Well, we're getting more planes here in Washington.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: Except Delta is pulling out of Reno completely.

I am remiss in that I did not at the beginning of our meeting introduce Lynn Bradley, who is here from the ALA Washington office. At this time I would invite you to say whatever you would like to say, and we are delighted that you were able to make it.

MS. BRADLEY: Well, thank you for inviting us. Emily Sheketoff had to be out of town today, so I'm here for our entire office.

As you know, I share with you the statement that the Association of Research Libraries, the American Association of Law Libraries, and ALA put out. We've been following the anti-terrorism legislation, in addition to some of the terrorism, emergency preparedness, and other issues. There are clearly pieces of this legislation that are going to raise some library issues for us, especially on confidentiality.

We're also hearing about the issues of FOIA as well as the confidentiality of library records. So we stand ready to keep talking with you all and other parts of the library community. If you have questions, I'll be glad to address them, too.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: Thank you, Lynn.  
Any comments, any questions for Lynn?

VICE CHAIR CHALLINOR: Yes, I have some. I think it's going to be a very difficult row, because I think anything that we talk about that we do not want that the government wants will be in certain places represented as anti-patriotic. I think it's a really tough row.

MS. BRADLEY: I think it's going to be a very difficult discussion for the whole country and for the library community.

VICE CHAIR CHALLINOR: But specifically for the library community, because they are going to try and guard those rights which many people feel that in any war -- I was there during the WWII -- that in any war those rights go. This is tough. My heart goes out to you, really.

MS. BRADLEY: Well, we're all going to be in that discussion. When you talk about access to government information, you're inherently in that field of discussion, and we are hearing reports already about some things being requested to be removed. In the case of the water survey maps, the Geological Survey had asked the Superintendent of Documents, who then did formally ask for those things to be removed.

Then there's going to be other issues, I think, that are not part of the federal depository library program. It's almost easier on the FDLR issues because the government still legally owns those materials or those CD's or whatever. But in the case of some of the other things we're hearing about, it may have been government information, but it had been purchased or otherwise obtained by a particular library, so it's not really part of the FDLR.

So there's a lot of -- and I think one of the things that the ALA wants to do is, first of all, analyze the bill when it's signed, probably by now; secondly, help us all understand what it really means for us. We are a nation of laws and we have been advising our members that they need to have their policies and procedures in order so that they understand what they will do in an individual institution when this comes up and what the repercussions are, both plus and minus.

It's going to be a complex debate. Then there are various programs and other things that ALA and the other associations are working on to ascertain more about the bill itself, as well as these, if you will, collateral issues that are going to be equally important.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: Well, we certainly will stay in very close contact with the Washington office on this issue, believe me.

MS. BRADLEY: Thanks for having us.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: All I could think of when I first looked at this bill -- Joan, Jack, you recall from your own meetings, I am sure. Nearly all of us will remember the Alien and Sedition Acts. It's the first thing I thought of.

VICE CHAIR CHALLINOR: 1797.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: Yes, Marilyn?

COMMISSIONER MASON: I think insofar as access to records, both Internet records and other records --

COMMISSIONER HOLAHAN: I can't hear.

COMMISSIONER MASON: I think insofar as access to records, both print records and Internet records, the important issue for ALA is to make sure that the law has the proper rigor and that libraries understand their need to comply with the law when that has been done.

One of the things I fear is that every library will start reinventing for themselves the way they're going to apply these things. So it would be most useful. I applaud the efforts to make sure that the

appropriate rigor continues to exist, but there's a lot of misunderstanding in libraries across the country about what their responsibility is once that has happened and subpoenas are issued.

MS. BRADLEY: I think you're quite right. The legal community, even looking at this particular bill -- for example, one of the provisions we looked closely at was the issue of access to business records, which we identified as encompassing library records, student records, probably even health care records, and to observe several legal people, some of whom had even written FOIA laws and been very much involved in these issues for many years having a dispute about what these really meant -- even once the bill is passed, we've got to figure out what it means once it's implemented, then what will happen.

But what we're trying to do is do it based on what the law is not under worries or anticipated problems, but about what is really happening and what it really means. So that to the extent that the stress within the library community is creating some very emotional discussions on this -- in the two or three state conferences we've been to, we've had wide reaction to what the library community is doing in this regard, both being suggested that we are anti-patriotic and supporting mass murder to that we have not gone far enough to protect citizens' rights for access to information, especially government information. So we're trying to keep it on as rational and legal and systematic common sense approach as we possibly can.

Are we on the same wavelength?

COMMISSIONER MASON: Yes, yes.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: At this point I can't quite believe that we may actually finish an hour before we planned on it. But I would like to ask if there's any new business.

Oh, that's right. Sorry. We got zeroed in. We still have to talk about how we're going to approach doing the 2003 budget. Actually, I think at this point we have identified, going back to Marilyn's suggestion that we need to look at what we need to do before we start talking about the 2003 budget, I think we have identified some rather important issues.

Judy.

MS. RUSSELL: Let me tell you what the problem is or the opportunity is. What we've discussed right now is how are we going to spend this year's 1.5 million, and we've deferred these decisions to the December meeting when we'll have a little more detail on them, which is understandable. We have a lot of flexibility with this year's money, even as we're going through the year, to change and move around our priorities.

Technically, government agencies were to have their proposals for FY 2003 in to OMB on September the 10th. Our budget analyst agreed that, in the face of OMB's expectation that our budget for 2003 was zero, that it made no sense for us to put in a proposal for anything. So we had agreed that once we had a bill passed and we knew that in fact the Commission was funded for this year, we would then submit, as Bob's slide shows, a request for 2003 and an appeal, because we're starting from the supposition at OMB that the base is zero.

So we have to not only submit it, we have to submit it and immediately appeal to even get considered. So it's going to be very tricky trying to write that document, which in effect is due like the day after the education bill is signed into law. Not technically, but really, if we're going to be in a budget published in January, we need to get it in before we meet in December.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: Correct.

MS. RUSSELL: So we are going to need some general guidance. We can extrapolate from what we anticipate doing this year, but are we going to go in for effectively level funding? Are we going to go back in for \$3 million? Are we going to say that \$3 million is what we really thought we needed to do base business and homeland security is an additional thing and therefore we're asking for more?

We need some general guidance from the Commission as we put together a straw man budget which will then be given to you all to review before we turn it in to OMB. So I know I'm asking you an unanswerable question because we don't even really have a tight budget for this year, but we need some general parameters and guidance on how you want us to proceed.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: Marilyn.

COMMISSIONER MASON: My suggestion is that, based on the priorities we've identified, which are a continuation of our overall mission and builds on a lot of the projects of the past, but does not really highlight some of the new initiatives that we had talked about if we had gotten \$3 million, which may be relatively less important today than it was on September 10th, I would project forward from that level of activity.

My guess is it would be in the \$2 million range. That is to say, I would recommend some normal kind of incremental growth based on a new set of priorities. But instead of setting an arbitrary figure of \$3 million and our going back to the laundry list of projects we had before, even though those things are still important, I think that they're just not going to capture anyone's attention today.

COMMISSIONER HIGHTOWER: May I? I think that if we're going to add, that if we could identify our addons as things that we really think are especially important post-9/11, then we could get a little better audience; that we need what we've had in order to continue what we have identified as our mission, but that in the light of post-9/11 these additional responsibilities we believe that we need to address and we're going the need funding to do it, and justify the increased funding with those considerations.

COMMISSIONER ROBINSON: But don't we also need to deal with the fact that the \$1.495 doesn't in fact include any staff COLA's for this year or for next year.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: That is correct.

COMMISSIONER ROBINSON: So in anticipation of that, we probably ought to add 7 to 8 percent or something, whatever.

MR. WILLARD: There's general guidance on that, OMB guidance.

MS. RUSSELL: We would normally factor that in.

COMMISSIONER ROBINSON: There's a question that hasn't been asked yet which has to do with, if we get this change in the legislation, which at some point I remember there was a discussion about having us bypass OMB in the scheme of things --

MS. RUSSELL: Even if that happened, it would not affect FY 2003. It would not kick in until the out years, and it's not likely to happen.

I think the other changes are pretty likely, to get the rules on the quorum and the continuing appointments, because those are really almost pro forma. They're so common in other commissions that the staff people that we talked to on both Appropriations and oversight essentially said these are truly technical amendments, like just corrections, there's no sweat, no problem, no controversy over them. The budget issue is controversial.

COMMISSIONER ROBINSON: Even though there are other commissions that have that.

MS. RUSSELL: Only one.

COMMISSIONER ROBINSON: Only one.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: Only one.  
José.

COMMISSIONER GRIFFITHS: Yes?

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: Do you have any comments on the direction that so far has been given to Bob and Judy on 2003 budget?

COMMISSIONER GRIFFITHS: No. I am in agreement with what was just said.

MS. RUSSELL: You all should have, although I would not be surprised if somebody tidied up and has not kept it, the proposal that we put in for the \$3 million. What you might want to do is to look back at that and look at some of the line items where they built up to that \$3 million. There was a general emphasis on two areas we have not been able to deal with because we haven't been able to staff up to deal with: intellectual property and telecom.

But there was a significant amount of research work. One of the things was to do an up to date review of the overall situation in terms of the national information infrastructure just as a survey or research project. That may still be important and it may be something that can be tied to the homeland security issues in terms of we really need a baseline, we really need to know where we are and how those things fit in order to then monitor as we go forward.

But we're not expecting rational guidance really in 30 seconds here in the context of a meeting. But I think it would help to go back and look at, and if some of you want us to send you new copies so you don't have to go back and dig and find it, we can do that. But go back and look at what we had in the original \$3 million and sort of say, yes, we still think we should be doing a survey of the national information infrastructure, but maybe it should emphasize X.

Maybe we are going to still say intellectual property and telecom are beyond us, but perhaps we need something else because of these other initiatives. But we're going to need that guidance relatively quickly, because literally my next major project is going to be starting to draft the 2003 budget.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: Yes, Winston.

MR. TABB: I think the idea of trying to retool the part that was in the earlier request relating to the national infrastructure into the specific post-9/11 effort is what we should do. I'm very concerned about going in and asking in a vague way for money to deal with the homeland issues if we don't know what exactly we're going to do, particularly entering into a climate where you've been zeroed out and probably would be again.

It's an uphill battle and I think everyone is coming in trying to invent ways of hiding under this umbrella. I mean, every agency is going to be trying to get into this category. So I think to the degree we could show we already had identified it in an earlier submission and retool it, but not as if it's totally new, but to show we were ahead of the game already, we might have some success in that area. But it can't just be vague, I think.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: I really like the comments you made, because we have been ahead of the game and libraries in general I think have been ahead of the game. But somehow along the way we forgot to let people know what the hell it is we're doing.

Joan, you wanted to say something? You're grabbing the microphone.

VICE CHAIR CHALLINOR: I think that what we've brought up today, including the budget, has been so important that I look at this date, December 5th and December 6th -- if we want to get together and talk about something before that, do you want the executive committee to do it or do you want to get --

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: The executive committee normally has been -- we're trying to meet at least by telephone conference once a week.

VICE CHAIR CHALLINOR: I think that's important.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: -- and will continue to do so. So as you feed money -- money. Yes, do feed money. As you feed information in to Judy vis a vis the budget, do I have a consensus that the executive committee can continue to work on this to craft the 2003 budget, based on the comments that we have heard?

COMMISSIONER ROBINSON: Yes.

VICE CHAIR CHALLINOR: Not only that, but my suggestion is that anything that comes up between now and December 5th. God knows what's going to come up.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: Yes.

COMMISSIONER HIGHTOWER: Directly in point, though, what about Monday? Will we have our conference on Monday, in view of today?

VICE CHAIR CHALLINOR: A conference on Monday?

COMMISSIONER HIGHTOWER: I'm talking about the executive committee usually has a telephone conference on Monday morning and I was just inquiring.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: I was planning on it.

COMMISSIONER HIGHTOWER: Okay.

VICE CHAIR CHALLINOR: Me too.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: Okay, yes. Yes, we will have our telephone conference as usual on Monday morning.

COMMISSIONER HIGHTOWER: That's good.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: I will let you have a telephone number in Connecticut.

COMMISSIONER ROBINSON: At the beginning there was something on the slide about the issue of the appointment of people who already had gone through the FBI process. I have a question, which I know nothing about. Am I correct in saying that people have to have an FBI record before they can be appointed, before they can be appointed on a recess appointment?

MS. RUSSELL: Yes.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: Yes.

COMMISSIONER HOLAHAN: But I have a question with regard to that. The three of us, Robby, I believe Marilyn and I, have completed FBI and gotten the clearance. But somewhere in some conversation with the Office of Presidential Personnel since President Bush has come into office I think they had intended to do it all over again.

MS. RUSSELL: I'm thinking if they were looking at you as an appointment of their own, in other words appointing you to another full term, they probably would have done that. The discussion we had had was going to White House personnel and saying: Look, we're going to lose three members; there's no way you can get three members through to get them on; so recess appoint these



people for one more year to keep us having a quorum until your people get in, because it really isn't blocking them from filling those slots.

We're not necessarily asking them to let you fill out the rest of your terms, but to use the recess appointment to keep you from going off in December and extend you another year.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: Yes, Bob.

MR. WILLARD: The resolution that we just passed said that the chair has to communicate with the President, to communicate the urgent need to make the appointments. Is it the sense of the Commission that we should include in that the recommendation that the recess appointments, appointees, be re-recess appointed?

COMMISSIONER HOLAHAN: Well, I would suggest strongly that you do that, using the logic that we have cleared FBI. Even though it may not have been under this administration, it was still FBI. And the FBI at this juncture is really kind of overtaxed.

MR. WILLARD: Right, and those records of course are completely available to members of the White House Personnel Office.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: And believe me, I have every intention of doing so.

COMMISSIONER ROBINSON: The interesting thing is my understanding from Bob Martin is that nobody has been sent up even the beginning pieces of paper.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: No.

COMMISSIONER ROBINSON: So it took us six months to get past that hurdle and if they haven't even sent anything out, God only knows when that's going to happen.

MS. RUSSELL: Right. At this point they haven't even gotten back to these potential nominees to ask them to fill out the paper that gets turned in to the White House, before the White House even then sends out and asks for the background checks. So we're way down the curve on their getting new people in.

VICE CHAIR CHALLINOR: Martha, are you talking about conveying to the President? In what manner will it be conveyed to the President?

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: It will be done in an official letter.

VICE CHAIR CHALLINOR: You will be sending an official letter?

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: Yes. It will go out under my signature.

VICE CHAIR CHALLINOR: We have a contact in the White House in the Personnel, Rebecca Contreras.

MS. RUSSELL: Heidi Marquez is actually the person assigned to us.

VICE CHAIR CHALLINOR: Heidi?

MR. WILLARD: Heidi Marquez was. She has gone on to a new assignment and we have someone else.

VICE CHAIR CHALLINOR: But how about Rebecca Contreras?

MR. WILLARD: She's the boss.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: Yes. What will happen is the letter actually is sent to the President, but I will hand-carry it to the Office of White House Personnel.

VICE CHAIR CHALLINOR: Rebecca Contreras.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: Yes.

MR. WILLARD: We might also see if we have anybody from Texas who could help. For example, Clay Johnson is the head of White House Personnel, and a senior level White House person might be able to get us an interview with that person.

VICE CHAIR CHALLINOR: Rebecca Contreras works for that person?

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: Yes, that is correct.

VICE CHAIR CHALLINOR: So she is the top dog we speak to normally, but on other possibilities --

COMMISSIONER ROBINSON: There are bigger dogs.

VICE CHAIR CHALLINOR: I suppose you're talking the top dog to the top dog.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: Yes, that is correct.

COMMISSIONER HIGHTOWER: As the local chihuahua --

(Laughter.)

MS. RUSSELL: You're going to try to reach the doberman?

COMMISSIONER HIGHTOWER: I'll try to help here.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: Is there any other new business that any of the Commissioners wish to bring up at this point?

(No response.)

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: Are there any additional comments that any of the Commissioners wish to make at this point?

(No response.)

COMMISSIONER ROBINSON: I move we adjourn.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: It has been moved by Donald Robinson that we adjourn.

VICE CHAIR CHALLINOR: Second.

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: Actually, I don't think we have to second a move to adjourn, but it's been seconded. All those in favor?

(A chorus of ayes.)

CHAIRPERSON GOULD: Thank you. José, thank you for hanging in there with us. It's deeply appreciated. Thank you all.

This meeting is adjourned.

(Whereupon, at 11:15 a.m., the meeting was adjourned.)